The five sectors in which minimum amount of FDI has been received are timber products; soaps, cosmetics and toilet preparations; boilers and steam generating plants; photographic raw film and paper and sugar.

Amendment in Food Adulteration Laws

*198. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the laws, equating, adulteration of food and beverage with 'poisoning with knowledge of consequences' a criminal offence, similar to causing death due to rash and negligent acts for which punishment would be more severe;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, already provides for severe punishment for the offences under the Act. It provides for a minimum penalty of six months imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1000/- in cases of proven adulteration. In cases of adulteration of serious nature, where the article of food or adulterant is found to be injurious to health, the accused person shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one year but which may extend to six years and with fine which shall not be less than two thousand rupees.

Provided that if such article of food or adulterant, when consumed by any person is likely to cause his death or is likely to cause such harm on his body as would amount to grievous hurt within the meaning of Section 320 of the Indian Penal Code, he shall be punishable with imprisonment of a term which shall not be less than three years but which may extend to term of life and with fine which shall not be less than five thousand rupees.

A comprehensive review of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, including the penal provisions is under consideration of the Ministry.